

Teacher Notes



teachstarter

Symbols



I do: my turn to talk. This is the explanation section of our lesson where you are required to listen.



We do: this is where we discuss or work on the concepts together.



You do: your turn to be involved. You may be working in a group or on an activity individually.

Developing Narrative Writing Skills



Narrative Texts - Overview

Narrative texts tell a story which entertains the reader or listener.

Narrative texts usually follow a clear and distinct structure.

Descriptive language is used in narrative writing.

There are many types of narrative texts, such as:

- picture books
- short stories
- novels
- traditional tales.



Narrative Text Structure

Orientation	This is the beginning of the story in which the setting, the characters and the plot are introduced.
Complication	This is a problem or challenge that the main characters need to solve.
Series of Events	These are the events that occur as the main characters try to resolve the problem.
Resolution	This is the solution to the problem which may lead to a happy or unhappy conclusion for the main characters.



Narrative Example - The Gingerbread Man

Orientation

Once upon a time, there lived a sweet old woman and a grumpy old man. They lived in a tiny cottage down near the river. The grumpy old man was hungry, so the sweet old woman decided to bake him a gingerbread man.

Complication

Soon, the tiny kitchen smelled of delicious gingerbread. The sweet old woman opened the oven door. All of a sudden, the tasty gingerbread man jumped off the oven tray. He ran out of the door and down the long street. With the old woman running tiredly behind, the gingerbread man cried, "You can't catch me, I'm the gingerbread man!"



Narrative Example - The Gingerbread Man

Series of Events

The gingerbread man ran through the grassy field. Before long, the whole town was running along behind him. No one was fast enough to catch him! The gingerbread man finally arrived at the bank of the wide river. He looked around for an object to transport him to the other side safely.

Resolution

Out of the bushes, a sly, hungry fox appeared. He offered to take the gingerbread man across the river. As soon as they reached the other side, the clever fox tossed the gingerbread man into the air and ate him.



Narrative Structure - Class Activity

As a class, examine the narrative structure of *The Gingerbread Man*.

Fill in the table on the next slide to identify:

- the **orientation**
- the **complication**
- the **series of events**
- the **resolution**.



Narrative Structure - Class Activity

Orientation	
Complication	
Series of Events	
Resolution	



Narrative Text Language Features

Narrative texts use descriptive language. The author 'paints pictures with words' so that readers can imagine what is happening in the story.

Here are some examples of language you might find in a narrative text:

- use of a range of verb types, usually written in past tense
- use of nouns to name people, places or things
- use of adjectives and adjectival phrases to describe nouns
- use of adverbs and adverbial phrases to describe verbs.



Descriptive Language in Narrative Texts

Nouns

A noun is a person, place or thing.

Adjectives

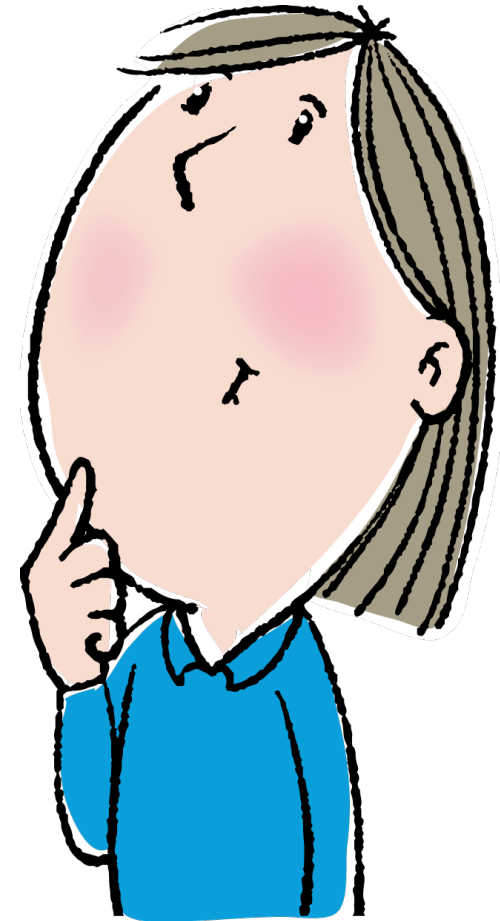
An adjective describes the noun.

Verbs

A verb is a doing word.

Adverbs

An adverb describes the verb.



Narrative Language - Example

This section of text from *The Gingerbread Man* contains many **nouns**, **adjectives**, **past tense verbs** and **adverbs**.

Soon, the **tiny kitchen** smelled of **delicious gingerbread**. The **sweet old woman** opened the **oven door**. All of a sudden, the **tasty gingerbread man** **jumped** off the **oven tray**. He **ran** out of the **door** and down the **long street**. With the **old woman** running **tiredly** behind, the **gingerbread man** **cried**, “You can’t catch me, I’m the **gingerbread man!**”



Descriptive Language - Adverbial Phrases

Adverbial phrases add more meaning to a verb.

They describe **how**, **where**, **why** or **when**.

e.g. The gingerbread man ran...

... as fast as he could. (**how**)

... into the grassy field. (**where**)

... because he wanted to escape. (**why**)

... in the early hours of the morning. (**when**)



Descriptive Language - Adjectival Phrases

Adjectival phrases add greater description to a noun or pronoun.

e.g. The gingerbread man...

... with the shiny red buttons

... with the mischievous smile

... with white and red decoration

jumped off the oven tray and ran out the door.



Descriptive Language - Activity

Work with a partner to identify an **adverbial phrase** and an **adjectival phrase** in the descriptions below.

The strong and courageous Jack climbed with all of his strength.

The giant with the huge voice shouted down the beanstalk.

The tall and sturdy beanstalk shook from side to side.



Descriptive Language - Answers

Did you correctly identify the **adverbial phrase** and the **adjectival phrase** in the descriptions below?

The **strong and courageous** Jack pulled **with all of his strength**.

The giant **with the huge voice** shouted down the beanstalk.

The **tall and sturdy** beanstalk shook from side to side.



Narrative Language - Review

Use the language features explored on the previous slides (nouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, adjectival phrases and adverbial phrases) to create your own description of the scene shown in the image.

You don't need to retell the story – just use descriptive language to describe the setting and the characters.

Share your descriptions with the class.

